

House Republican Press Release

March 29, 2005
Press Office: 860-240-8700

Rep. Hamzy: Homeland Security Grants Okayed for Bristol and Plymouth



Federal homeland security and anti-terrorism grants will be provided to Bristol and Plymouth within the next few weeks, state Representative William A. Hamzy, R-78th District, announced today.

The grants, which will be used to strengthen state, local and regional efforts to prevent, respond to and recover from terrorism-related chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive incidents, as well as cyber attacks and natural disasters, come from a \$24,080,428 federal homeland security grant the state received recently, Representative Hamzy said.

About \$16.9 million of the funding is earmarked for distribution to Connecticut's cities and towns for planning and operations, including communications, medical reserves and regional response teams for hazardous materials and bombs. The remaining funds will support state programs and be administered by the state's new Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), Representative Hamzy said.

"Although it is highly unlikely that Bristol or Plymouth would be high priority targets for international terrorist organizations, it is better to be prepared for the worst and never be attacked than to be unprepared and risk mass casualties if the unthinkable occurs," Representative Hamzy said. "Bristol and Plymouth are fortunate to have well-trained and professional police and fire departments as well as emergency services units that are capable of dealing with almost any public disturbance or natural disaster. These grants will enable both communities to provide the specialized training and equipment that will give our public safety and emergency services personnel the edge they may need to prevail against any threat to our towns."

Homeland Security and Terrorism Prevention grants awarded to 78th District towns include:

- Bristol: \$196,117
- Plymouth: \$44,222